

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for providing electronic document exchange between a plurality of trading partners, each trading partner associated with an electronic data processing system connected to a communications link and a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of files, each having a plurality of fields for data entry, in a first file format from one of the trading partners to one of said computer systems;

defining a portion of said fields of each said file as key fields having data corresponding to stored verification data accessible by said computer system;

mapping at least a portion of said files received in said first file format into a second file format to be received by another of the trading partners wherein said first file format is unique from said second file format;

identifying files as errored claims as a result of having incomplete or inaccurate data in any of said fields; and

automatically editing only said key fields of said errored claims by exchanging said incomplete or inaccurate data for said stored verification data.

2. The method of Claim 2 wherein the trading partners receiving data in said second file format are free of performing application or system specific translations.

3. The method of Claim 1 wherein said key fields are defined for receiving a member number, a provider number, a procedure designation, and a date of service.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein said key fields are precluded from being otherwise defined.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein said errored claims having said incomplete or inaccurate data in other than said key fields is left unedited.

6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a list of errors in each file identified as being an errored claim.

7. The method of Claim 6 further comprising the step of manually editing said errored claim based upon said list of errors provided for identifying errors in each said file.
8. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first file format is a non-standard file format and said second file format is a standard file format.
9. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first file format is a standard file format and said second file format is a non-standard file format.
10. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first file format is a non-proprietary file format and said second file format is a proprietary file format.
11. The method of Claim 1 wherein said first file format is a proprietary file format and said second file format is a non-proprietary file format.
12. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of accessing the Internet to transmit and receive data.

13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of reformatting said data off-line.

14. An electronic forms processing system on a network of computers, said computers transmitting data between one another, at least one of said computers receiving information in a first file format and at least another of said computers transmitting and receiving information in a second file format, said electronic forms processing system having an electronic forms editor program module, said editor program module comprising instructions which, when executed by at least one of said computers, performs the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of files, each having a plurality of fields for data entry, in a first file format from one of the trading partners to one of said computer systems;

defining a portion of said fields of each said file as key fields having data corresponding to stored verification data accessible by said computer system;

mapping at least a portion of said files received in said first file format into a second file format to be received by another of the trading partners wherein said first file format is unique from said second file format;

identifying files as errored claims as a result of having incomplete or inaccurate data in any of said fields; and

automatically editing only said key fields of said errored claims by exchanging said incomplete or inaccurate data for said stored verification data.

15. A computer-implemented method for providing electronic document exchange between a plurality of trading partners, each trading partner associated with an electronic data processing system connected to a communications link and a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of files, each having a plurality of fields for data entry, in a first file format from one of the trading partners to one of said computer systems;

defining a portion of said fields of each said file as key fields having data corresponding to stored verification data accessible by said computer system, said key fields defined for receiving a member number, a provider number, a procedure designation, and a date of service;

mapping at least a portion of said files received in said first file format into a second file format to be received by another of the trading partners wherein said first file format is unique from said second file format;

during said mapping step, identifying files in said second data format as errored claims as a result of having incomplete or inaccurate data in any of said fields;

automatically editing only said key fields of said errored claims by exchanging said incomplete or inaccurate data for said stored verification data, wherein the trading partners receiving data in said second file format are free of performing application or system specific translations.

16. A computer readable storage medium on which is stored a computer program for use with a centralized computer system utilized by a plurality of trading partners to facilitate management of electronic documents, said program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of files, each having a plurality of fields for data entry, in a first file format from one of the trading partners to one of said computer systems;

defining a portion of said fields of each said file as key fields having data corresponding to stored verification data accessible by said computer system;

mapping at least a portion of said files received in said first file format into a second file format to be received by another of the trading partners wherein said first file format is unique from said second file format;

identifying files as errored claims as a result of having incomplete or inaccurate data in any of said fields; and

[illegible]